



IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A production process for a copolymer having a softening point falling in a range of 100 to 135°C, wherein cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound are heat-polymerized while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound to a solvent in the presence of the solvent of at least 20 and less than 45 mass parts per 100 mass parts of the monomers.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A hydrogenated copolymer that is obtained by hydrogenating a copolymer prepared by heat-polymerizing cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic ~~monomer~~ compound to a solvent, wherein a use amount of the solvent in heat polymerization is at least 0.2 and less than 0.45 times based on the mass of the whole monomers, and the copolymer ~~before~~ after hydrogenating has a softening point falling in a range of ~~100~~ 125 to ~~135~~ 160°C.

Claims 4-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The production process as described in claim 2, wherein the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound is selected from the group consisting of styrene,  $\alpha$ -methylstyrene, vinyltoluene, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The production process as described in claim 2, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of benzene, toluene, xylene, cyclohexane, dimethylcyclohexane, and ethylcyclohexane.

Claim 9 (New): A hydrogenated copolymer that is obtained by hydrogenating a copolymer prepared by heat-polymerizing cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and a vinyl-substituted aromatic compound while divisionally adding a monomer mixture of cyclopentadiene and/or dicyclopentadiene and the vinyl-substituted aromatic compound to a solvent, wherein a use amount of the solvent in heat polymerization is at least 0.2 and less than 0.45 times based on the mass of the whole monomers, and the copolymer after hydrogenating has a softening point falling in the range of 135 to 160°C.